

COUNTY BOARD COMMITTEE MINUTES

COMMITTEE: LAW ENFORCEMENT/ EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

DATE: November 30, 2012

Meeting called to order by Paul Babcock at 8:30 a.m. Members of the committee present were:

Paul Babcock, George Jaeckel, Pam Rogers, Dwayne Morris, Ed Morse

Others present were: Sheriff Milbrath, Chief Deputy Parker, Captain Scott, John Molinaro, Gary Petre

Absent: None

Compliance with open meetings law: Gary Petre assured compliance.

Approve agenda: The agenda was approved as printed.

Approval of minutes: A motion was made by Pam Rogers and seconded by George Jaeckel that the October 26, 2012 minutes be approved as printed. Motion carried.

Public Comment: None.

Communications: None.

Discussion and possible recommendation on the resolution forwarded by the Admin. & Rules Committee requesting state officials and the Governor re-examine policies that have lead to high incarceration rates in Wisconsin: Chief Deputy Parker said that he can't speak about the mechanisms in Outagamie County that address mental health needs as each county has different resources. Jefferson County is on the leading edge in reducing numbers of inmates that are sent to state mental institutions. The county is proactive in developing programs and staff training that address mental health issues. The processes within Jefferson County were begun to save money since sending inmates to mental health institutions is very expensive. The resolution is looking at redirecting \$75 million in funds from the state to enable them to provide alternatives to sending inmates to state institutions. Questions were raised as to where the \$75 million figure came from and John Molinaro said that the state has almost a \$500 million surplus which may be where that is coming from. At an ICC meeting they had six months ago, mental health issues in jails was a major topic. He agreed that Jefferson County was in much better shape than many other counties but could always use more funding if it could be available. Chief Deputy Parker said most of the jail staff in large populated areas are not trained to deal specifically with treatment plans. Jefferson County has programs and people in place to help recognize and deal with mental health issues. When they are in jail and getting treatment it is all good, but when they get out it is another matter. Pam Rogers commented that the Human Services board also reviewed the resolution but took no action on it. George Jaeckel said he was afraid that if the funding was redirected, the counties would be obligated beyond the time the funding is available. John Molinaro said the Admin and Rules Committee gets a lot of these items but doesn't pass many of them along. He mentioned that the Wisconsin Counties Association has indicated with this legislature it will be difficult to get anything moving so they have made a list of issues they feel are real priorities. Sheriff Milbrath said that Jefferson County has looked at the other options out there but the county doesn't have the finances or the resources to be able to do things such as day reporting or other programs. Chief Deputy Parker added that the internship program that we run with U.W. Whitewater which provides

the jail with people working on Master's Degrees to help inmates with AODA, drug and alcohol, anger management, etc. Sheriff Milbrath added that Human Services is on board with the programs so that is an added benefit.

The committee ultimately decided to take no action on the resolution.

Review the Jefferson County Jail state inspection report: John Molinaro said the jail inspection report came in with the jail doing very well as usual. There were some very minor things that need addressing. Chief Deputy Parker said the jail inspector mentioned that the state is getting at a point where overcrowding may have to push them to board inmates out again. It's possible that Jefferson County would be considered for boarding state inmates at approximately \$55 per day. That additional revenue would be very helpful in offsetting overtime in the jail.

John Molinaro has a copy of the report for anyone to see. He added that the jail has this inspection every year and has had high marks every year. The Sheriff's Office will scan the report and put it out on the website for review.

Grants – Status of ongoing or new grants: The Sheriff's Office continues to work with Wisconsin Clean Cities (propane grants). The Sheriff applied for another grant through the Wisconsin Propane Council to receive a couple propane systems for next year but it will have to wait until the vehicles are purchased.

Chief Deputy Parker said the grants from OJA that Watertown Police Department has been applying for which has a portion of the grant coming to Jefferson County have finally been paid for 2011 and 2012. The grants are small ones, amounting to about \$5,000 for the Sheriff's Office. The funds were used for a Varda System (camera/motion system) and the rest of the money was used for printers and other equipment for the Badger Tracs System (electronic traffic citations).

Report from the Sheriff: The Sheriff said he usually goes to a one-day traffic meeting where the Sheriff's Office has typically gotten some free equipment. This time he and Captain Scott went but weren't as fortunate; they only received a flashlight.

From the perspective of the jail kitchen, they are doing extremely well with donations. Another vendor recently donated a lot of mushrooms and potatoes and there may be more coming. The community has been very supportive of the jail kitchen. Giving the merit award has helped get the word out there that organizations have been donating food items.

The new camera systems that have been installed are working very well, both audio and video. Audio can be recorded even though the deputy is not near the squad. They also are easy to use.

Pam Rogers asked about the annex building and the Sheriff said they are working on the heating out there at this time. The old radiant heat system was removed and a new system is being installed.

The Sheriff added that they took over 1,000 pounds of controlled and a few non controlled medications down to Illinois for burning earlier in the week. The drug program has been very well received in the community. People are desperate to get rid of these medications.

Ed Morse asked about some recent media coverage regarding accidents caused by distracted officers (while using MDC's or other equipment in vehicles). Sheriff Milbrath said the Sheriff's

Office is working on additional procedure for that as well as a possible disabling device on the computer so it cannot be worked on while the vehicle is moving.

Review monthly bills and financial items: – The committee approved the monthly recap report for September bills in the amount of \$150,991.36. October bills totaled: \$88,040.37. A spreadsheet summarizing current bills was reviewed by the committee members. Chief Deputy Parker reviewed the budget numbers and commented that the new Finance Director has created a spreadsheet which shows more up-to-date budget figures. The goal percent for budgets for the end of October is 83.33%. The Sheriff's Office at the end of October was at 82.9% for wages and benefits, and from the operational standpoint it is 81.5%. This doesn't reflect comp payouts coming up in December. The disappointing area is overtime. The Sheriff's Office looks to be about \$76,000 over budget as of November 21, 2012. With required staffing minimums, overtime is unavoidable and sometimes unpredictable. Another area of concern is Worker's Comp. The overage is around \$124,000 in claims but there is a reserve amount that will be applied to that at the end of the year and we don't know what that is yet. Much discussion was had about overtime and trying to reduce it; however, since the Sheriff's Office is short-staffed right now it would be impossible to get a true representation of what overtime would normally be.

Review monthly jail and patrol activity reports: Jail and patrol activity reports were reviewed.

Jail assessment fund items: General fund items for September and October totaling \$7,164.92 for general maintenance, repairs, etc. An item for installing stack on pistol boxes in the secure hallway for jail deputies to have access to their weapons in the case of an emergency in the amount of \$1,650.00 was approved. Security locks and 15 storage shelves for the Huber dorm was the last jail assessment fund item in the amount of \$2,590.80. The balance for the fund on November 21, 2012 was \$354,530.00.

Next meeting date is December 28, 2012.

A motion made by George Jaeckel to adjourn at 9:48 a.m., was seconded by Pam Rogers. Motion carried.

Motions Carried: 2 Lost: 0 .

Signed _____